

El  
concl  
dissolving the polysaccharide is water, and wherein the cross-linker ionically cross-links the polysaccharide.

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*Please add new claims 20 and 21 as follows:*

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-- 20. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide fibers precipitate in the bath.

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21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the polysaccharide fibers precipitate in the bath simultaneously with the ionic cross-linking of the polysaccharide. --

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